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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Brown et al.

Examiner: M. Fleming

Serial No. : 09/050,614

Group Art Unit: 3762

Filed : March 30, 1998

For : A Carrier for Holding a Flexible Fluid Processing Container

AMENDMENT B

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed August 3, 2000.

An automatic three month extension to time to respond, up to and including February 3, 2001 (which falls on a Saturday), is respectfully requested. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1 (Twice Amended). A processing assembly for insertion into and removal from an arcuate channel defined between inner and outer walls which, in use, are rotated about a rotational axis to create a centrifugal field, the processing assembly comprising,

an elongated processing container having a dimension measured about the rotational axis that is larger than a dimension measured along the rotational axis, the processing container also having flexibility and which, in use, occupies the arcuate channel to convey fluids within the arcuate channel in a circumferential path about the rotation axis for separation in the centrifugal field, and

a carrier secured to the processing container shaped to maintain the processing container outside the arcuate channel in a rounded, flexed condition conforming to the arcuate channel, the carrier limiting deformation of the processing container during insertion into or removal from the arcuate channel.

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

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